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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,816	02/11/2004	TJ Chin	15578	3360
39747	7590	09/29/2004	EXAMINER	
GOLDSTEIN LAW OFFICES, P.C. 2071 CLOVE ROAD - 204 STATEN ISLAND, NY 10304				O MALLEY, KATHRYN S
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				3749

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/776,816	CHIN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Kathryn S. O'Malley	3749

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 February 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 11 February 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/11/04</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 3,639,998 to Mason.
3. Mason teaches a lint filter for a clothes dryer comprising rotatable drum 12, micro-filter 18, input pathway 16 coupled to sensor 31a for determining the airflow in the pathway prior to entering filter 18, exhaust pathway 19 coupled to sensor 32a for determining the airflow in the exhaust pathway just beyond filter 18, controller 37 in communication with sensor 31a and 32a for detecting a change in the airflow between the first and second sensors and determining if filter 18 is restricting airflow, and alarm 40 in communication with controller 37 for signaling a build up of lint in the filter 18 to a user. Note column 2, lines 40-61; column 3, lines 12-69; and Figure 3.

Conclusion

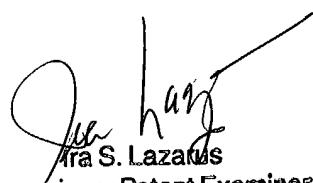
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Harpenau, Berry, III, Futa et al., Bashark, Dongelmans, and Stein teach similar blocked filter detection systems.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kathryn S. O'Malley whose telephone number is (703)308-2844. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ira Lazarus can be reached on (703)308-1935. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KSO



Ira S. Lazarus
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)

DOCKET NO.: 15578 SERIAL NO:
APPLICANT: TJ Chin and Patricia Farrow
FILING DATE: HEREWITH
TITLE: Lint Filter Assembly For Use In A Dryer

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER <u>INITIALS</u>	DOCUMENT <u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>SUBCLASS</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>
KSO	5,709,040	Jan.20,1998				
KSO	5,097,606	Mar.24,1992	Harmelink, et al.	34	32	Aug.23,1990
KSO	5,860,224	Jan. 19, 1999	Larson	34	418	June 2,1997

EXAMINER: KSO Mallery DATE CONSIDERED: 9/23/04

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and no considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.